

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Overview of main development results in Afghanistan in 2014

Summary Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP)

Afghanistan has shown progress in different fields, but this progress remains fragile and the country still faces challenges: poverty, insecurity, low levels of schooling, a stagnating economy, high unemployment, the vulnerable position of women, corruption, weak state institutions and lack of confidence in the judiciary. 2014 was a remarkable year, as the country experienced the first democratic transfer of power in its history. The two contesting parties united in a government of national unity and are now taking on the challenges that face the country. The focus of the Dutch embassy's bilateral programme on security and the rule of law allows an integrated approach to achieving foreign policy goals. Besides the rule of law, the embassy has activities on food security.

Priority themes

- Security and rule of law
- Food security

Embassy contribution to changes at country level

- Security sector institutions have been strengthened through Dutch support of various multi-donor trust funds. Security sector institutions have been strengthened, but many challenges still lie ahead. The deteriorating security situation has hampered the impact of multi-donor interventions.
- The Afghan Security Forces (ANDSF) have demonstrated significant growth and higher quality in the past years. In 2014/2015 the ANDSF have been put to the test as the NATO presence has decreased considerably. Continued Dutch support - through e.g. ANA Trust Fund and LOTFA – is therefore important.
- NL has contributed to strengthened justice institutions, at provincial level through the Kunduz programme and nationwide through Justice and Human Rights in Afghanistan (JHRA). A high degree of corruption and persistent lack of trust in the justice sector hamper significant progress.
- Through the multi-donor Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF) and support for the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC), the Netherlands has contributed to a more accountable government and improved dialogue and awareness on human rights, including women's rights.
- Democracy has been strengthened through support for the EnhancDemocracy has been strengthened through support for the Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow (ELECT) programme. Many challenges still lie ahead, but the first democratic transfer of power in 2014 was a milestone.
- Food security has improved partly due to Dutch-funded efforts of the World Food Programme and support to a school for vocational education and training in Uruzgan and to the Agriculture Education College (NAEC) in Kabul. 256 students have graduated from NAEC and 464 students are currently enrolled.

Clarifications of results achieved

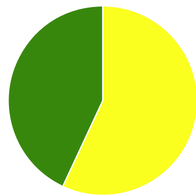
Progress has been made on most results identified at country level, though the country is not on track in every respect. Progress in Afghanistan in general remains fragile and could be reversed easily as a consequence of a deteriorating security situation or economic downturn, especially in the light of decreasing donor interest. There are no differences between the progress at country level and the embassy's contribution.

Implications for planning

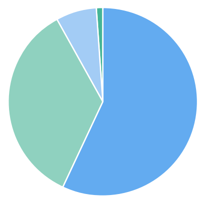
As the security situation is fragile and is progress easily reversed, it is important to remain committed to the development of Afghanistan in the long run.

Expenditures 2014 per theme

Total expenditure Embassy €22,096,000



Expenditures 2014 per channel



Developments in Afghanistan

On track | Progress, but not on track | No progress

Development	Status
Strengthened security sector institutions	Progress, but not on track
A functioning and coherent security sector	Progress, but not on track
Strengthened justice sector institutions and justice sector as a whole	Progress, but not on track
Government institutions that are better able to perform their core tasks	On track
Progress in strengthened democracy	On track
An increase in the availability of sufficient nutritious food	On track